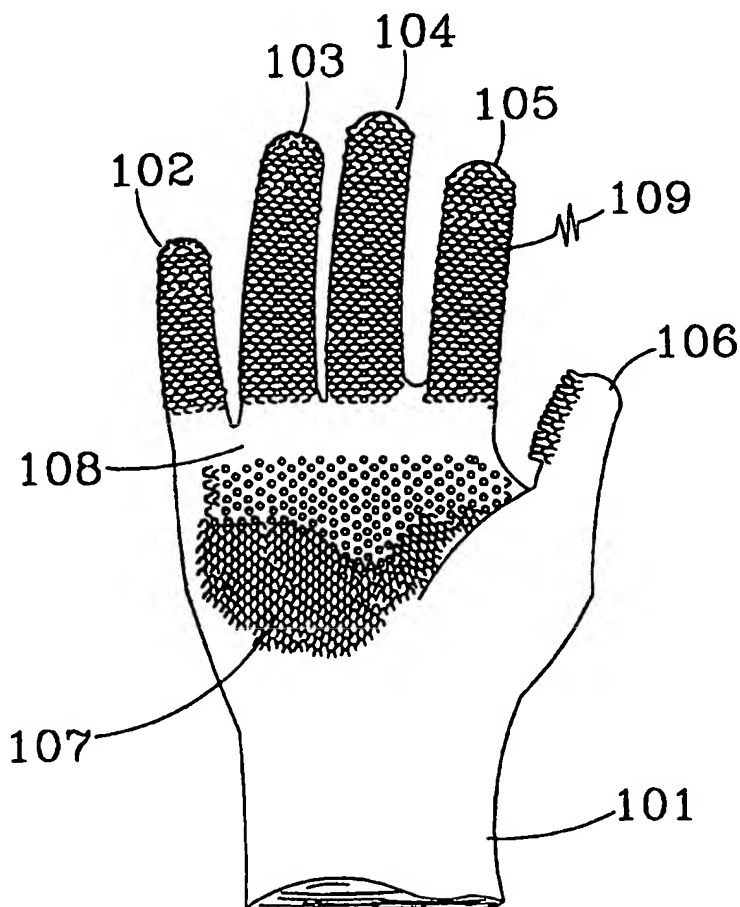


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(54) Title: GLOVE FOR WASHING PETS**(57) Abstract**

A rubber glove (11) for safely washing pets. The glove (11) has a palm portion and separate finger portions (12-16). The palm portion comprises one or more palm areas (17, 18) separated by one or more folds (20, 21). The palm areas (17, 18) and the palm sides of the finger portions (12-16) are covered with closely spaced small rubber protrusions (30).



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GLOVE FOR WASHING PETS

Background of Invention

This is a continuation-in-part of application serial number 08/210,438, filed March 21, 1994, and incorporated herein by reference.

This invention relates to a novel product for the washing and shampooing of household pets.

At the present time washing and shampooing of household pets is an arduous task when done by hand. It is often difficult to remove fleas and tangles. Further, there is a risk of dermatitis from contact with the chemicals used in the process.

Scrubbing gloves that have been described in the past are unsuitable for use with animals, because the common scrubbing surfaces would scratch the skin of the animal.

One object of this invention is to provide a novel glove which will not only protect the user, but will enable the user to accomplish a very effective cleaning and shampooing of the pet with a greater success in removing fleas and tangles.

Other objects and advantages of this invention will be learned from the description and claims which follow, taken together with the appended drawings.

Brief Summary of Invention

The glove of this invention fits over each finger and the palm of the hand. Each of the finger protrusions is covered on the palm side with closely spaced short protrusions made of a flexible material, such as rubber. The palm

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surface of the glove also has an area covered with closely spaced short protrusions. In one version of the invention this area is separated from the finger protrusions by a space having no protrusions. In another version of this invention, the palm surface of the glove has an outward area, spaced away from the fingers by the normal outward fold of the palm and an inward area spaced apart from the outward area by the normal inward fold of the palm. Both outward and inward areas are covered with closely spaced short protrusions. The protrusions are generally in the range of approximately 1/8 to 1/2 inch in length, the shorter lengths being preferred for scrubbing and the longer lengths for combing.

The glove of this invention can be made as an integral molded rubber glove, covering the entire hand to the wrist, wherein the protrusions are part of the glove. Another variation of the invention is to provide a glove whose palm face is covered with a rubber sheet. The rubber sheet is shaped in the form of fingers and the palm, includes closely spaced protrusions, and can be adhered to the glove to form a product having the same configuration as the integral molded rubber glove. The word "rubber" as used in this invention is intended to include elastomeric materials generally, including but not limited to natural rubber, synthetic rubber, thermoplastic elastomers such as "SANTOPRENE" (a trademark of Monsanto Company licensed to Advanced Elastomer Systems, L.P.), and Geon CIM Vinyl (BFGoodrich Company).

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Brief Description of Drawings

Fig. 1 is a diagrammatic plan view of a molded right hand glove from the palm side made in accordance with this invention.

Fig. 2 is a right side view of Fig. 1.

Fig. 3 is a diagrammatic plan view of another embodiment of this invention.

Fig. 4 is a right side view of Fig. 3.

Specific Example of Invention

The embodiment of this invention illustrated in Figs. 1 and 2 of the drawings comprises an integral molded rubber glove 11 which is adapted to cover an entire human right hand to the wrist. The glove has separate finger portions 12, 13, 14, 15, and 16, and an outer palm area 17 separated from the finger portions by the normal outer fold 20 of the palm and from an inner palm area 18 by a normal inner fold 21. The inner palm area includes the normal central dip 19 in the palm. The inner palm side of all the fingers and the palm areas are substantially completely covered with a closely spaced array of protrusions 30. The protrusions are preferably diagonally spaced and have a preferable base width of approximately 1/8th inch. The spacing density is preferably approximately 20 to 30 protrusions per square inch.

The embodiment illustrated in Figs. 3 and 4 comprises an integral molded rubber glove 101 which is also adapted to cover an entire human

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right hand to the wrist. The glove has separate finger portions 102, 103, 104, 105 and 106 and a palm area 107 separated from the finger portions by a palm fold 108. The palm side of all the fingers and the palm area 107 are substantially completely covered with a closely spaced array of protrusions 109.

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Claims

1. A rubber glove suitable for the safe washing and shampooing of pet animals; said glove having a palm portion and separate finger portions; said palm portion having one or more palm contact areas and the palm surfaces of said finger portions being completely covered with closely spaced small rubber protrusions; said glove being characterized as an improvement in removing fleas and tangles.

2. The glove of Claim 1 wherein the glove and the protrusions comprise an integral molded rubber glove.

3. The glove of Claim 1 wherein said protrusions are diagonally arrayed.

4. The glove of Claim 1 wherein the protrusions are spaced approximately 20-30 per square inch.

5. The glove of Claim 1 wherein the base width of each protrusion is approximately 1/8th inch.

AMENDED CLAIMS

[received by the International Bureau on 17 July 1995(17.07.95);
original claims 1-5 replaced by new
claims 1-3 (1 page)]

1. A rubber glove suitable for the safe washing and shampooing of pet animals; said glove having finger portions fitting over each finger separately and a palm area fitting over the palm of the hand; each of said finger portions of the glove being completely covered on its palm side with closely spaced, small rubber protrusions which are staggered and which are in the range of approximately 1/8th to 1/2 inch in length, and which have a base width of approximately 1/8th of an inch, and which are spaced approximately 20 to 30 per square inch; said palm area being covered with closely spaced, small rubber protrusions; said glove being characterized as an improvement in safe removal of fleas and tangles from pet animals.

2. The rubber glove of Claim 1 wherein the glove and the protrusions comprise an integral molded glove.

3. The rubber glove of Claim 1 wherein said palm area has one or more normal fold lines which have no rubber protrusions.

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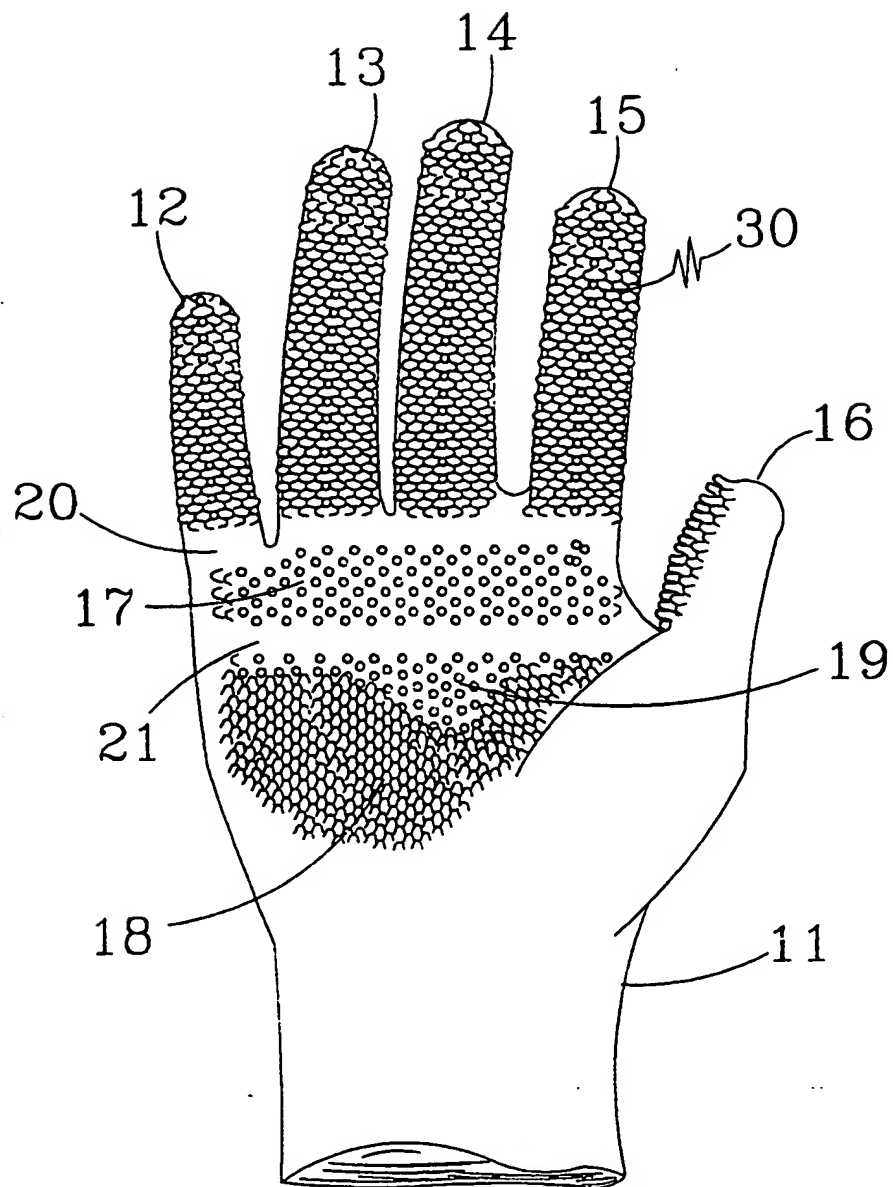


FIG. 1

SUBSTITUTE SHEET (RULE 26)

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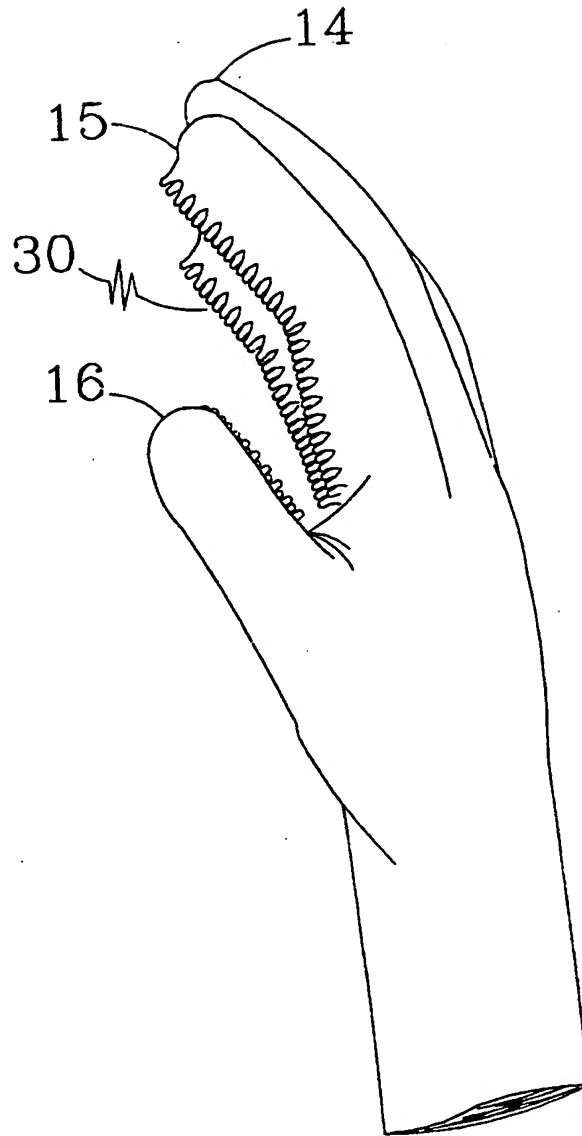


FIG.2

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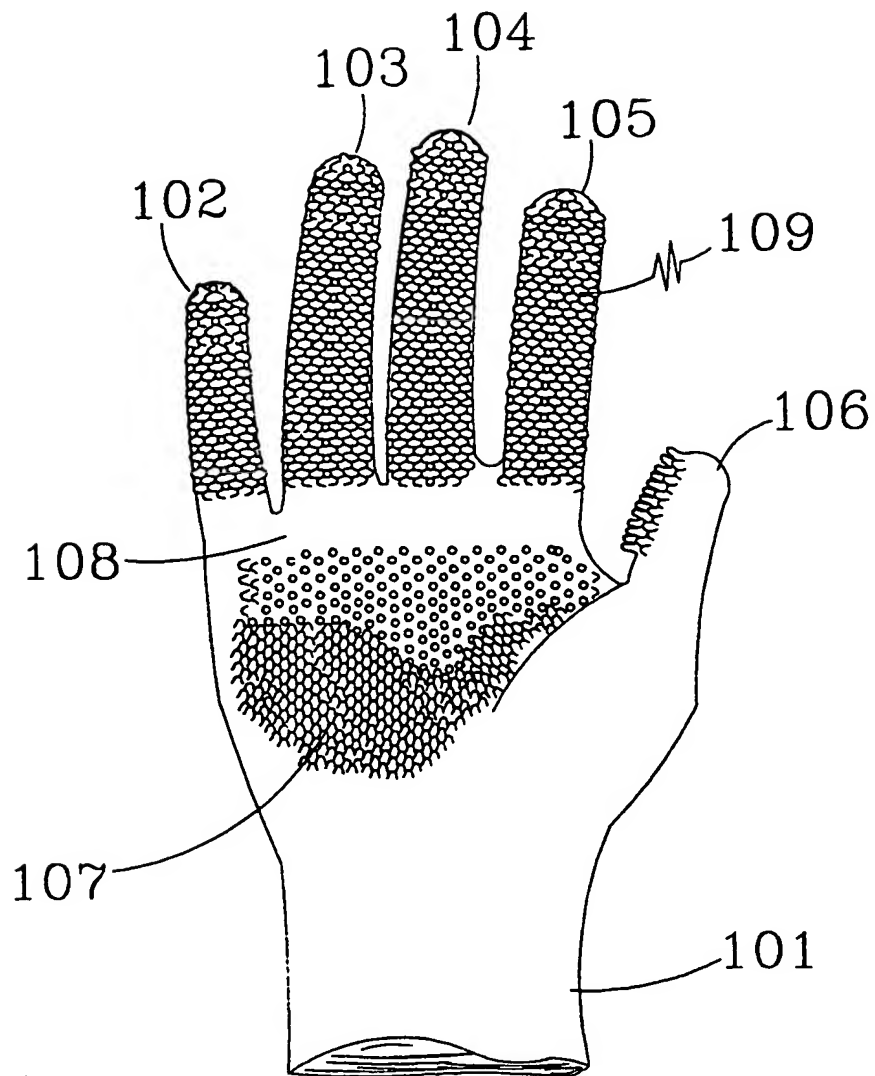


FIG.3

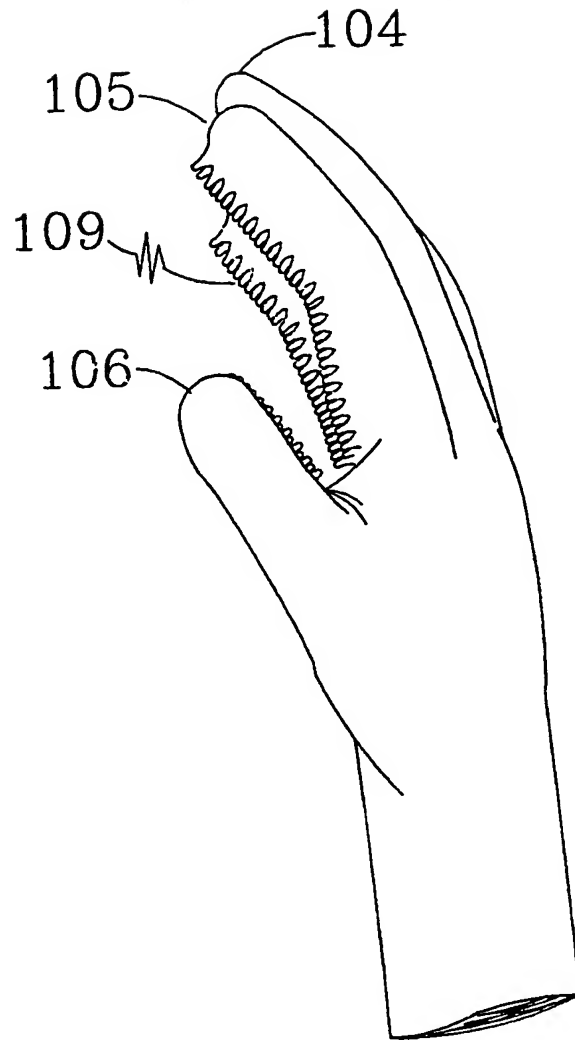


FIG.4

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/US95/03459

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC(6) :A01 K 29/00

US CL :119/158

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

U.S. : 119/158

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

NONE

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used)

NONE

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
Y	US, A, Des. 268,968 (SAMI) 17 May 1983. See the entire document.	1, 2, 4, 5
Y	US, A, 5,214,799 (FABRY) 01 June 1993. See the entire document.	1, 2, 4, 5
Y	US, A, 2,167,226 (W. O. WELLS ET AL.) 25 July 1939. See the entire document.	3



Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.



See patent family annex.

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Date of the actual completion of the international search

21 APRIL 1995

Date of mailing of the international search report

23 MAY 1995

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